

From: Anne Reuter
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 10:23pm
Subject: microsoft settlement

I am writing to you to express my concern about the Microsoft settlement. Over the years, Microsoft has become a monopoly that dominates the technological world we live in at work as well as at home. It is apparent that Microsoft is a part of our daily lives as we send e-mails, compose letters via word processing, develop databases, prepare spreadsheets, etc? It seems we have no choice but to use Microsoft! This monopoly in turn has created shortfalls: poor quality software as well as lack of customer support. A company such as Microsoft does not prevail because they have a product worthy of public support but because they have violated anti-trust laws and have eradicated and/or removed any competition that challenges their market share.

Because of the lack of competition, Microsoft has dominated our lives in the past decade. How can we say we have a free, open and competitive market, if we continue to allow one company to monopolize the technology market. I trust that the United States government will do the ?right thing? by imposing an adequate sanction on Microsoft for anti-trust violations as well as insure that Microsoft no longer has an edge over the competition. Otherwise the time spent by the Department of Justice as well as the taxpayers money will have been a waste and it will be business as usual. What message do we send to our youth and children if business continues as usual? I believe we are sending the message the if you are a powerful company such as Microsoft you can circumvent the law.

Thank you for affording me the opportunity to voice my concerns.

A. Reuter